and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The price of LPG packed (domestic) sold in cylinders is subsidised by Rs. 61/-per cylinder of 14.2.KG.

(d) In order to increase the availability of LPG and make more LPG available, Government has introduced the scheme of Parallel Marketing and reduced the customs duty from 85% to 25% on imports of LPG.

Waiting List for L.P.G.

350. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of masses in the country particularly in the State of Punjab are on the waiting lists for domestic L.P. Gas connections during the year 1991-93;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to clear the said waiting lists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The LPG waiting list in the country and in the State of Punjab during the years 1991-93 is as under:

(Figs. in lakhs)

As on	LPG Waiting List in the country	LPG Waiting list in Punjab
1.4.91	69.6	3.71
1.4.92	87.8	4.28
1.4.93	101.4	4.45

The demand of LPG has always been considerably higher than its availability.

(c) Efforts are being made by the oil companies to increase the availability of LPG in the country by augmenting production from the existing sources, commissioning of new sources and through imports.

Ex-Factory Prices of Petroleum Products

351. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the basic ex-factory price for each of the principal petroleum products in different parts of the country;

(b) the criteria underlying the fixation of such ex-factory prices; and

(c) whether consideration of balanced economic development are taken into account while fixing the ex-factory prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) A statement showing the ex-storage point prices of petroleum products is annexed. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) The fixation of these prices is governed by consideration of subsidising the products used by vulnerable sections of the society, prompting the right inter-fuel substitution and oil conservation.